Private Secvor power plants in Maharashtra and Assam

318. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:
SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any more scope for setting up private sector power plants in Maharashtra and Assam;

(b) if so, what is the capacity up to which such plants can be set up;

(c) what steps are being taken to encourage setting up of private sector power plants in the above mentioned States; and

(d) what is the average time within which clearance is given to such proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) has intimated that at present there are no sanctioned projects in Maharashtra, which could be offered to the private developers. However, if fuel-linkags could be tied up, the following power projects may be considered for development:

(1) Bhusawal 'B' project (2x500 MW) (coal based).

(2) Paras Project (250 MW) (coal based).

(3) Rewas Mandwa project PH-I (410 MW) (gas based).

Government of Assam has intimated that they have already signed MOUs with private developers for completion of Karbi Langpi HEP (2X50 MW) and 4 gas based power projects at Amguri (270 MW), Banskhandi (22.5 MW), Adamfilla (15 MW) and Namrup Extension (90 MW) and once these projects get completed they would meet the requirement of the state upto 2000 AD and at present no other power project is under consideration by them and also there is enough scope for more hydro (upto 450 MW) and gas based projects in Assam.

(c) In the context of paucity of resources with Central/State/PSUs and SEBs and to bridge the gap between rapidly growing demand for electricity and supply, a policy to encourage greater private sector investment in the power sector had been formulated in 1991 and is currently under implementation. The response to the policy including in the state of Maharashtra and Assam is encouraging and the Government is closely monitoring the progress of private power projects with a view to expedite their finalisation.

(d) Setting up of any power project involves obtaining a number of statutory and non-statutory clearances from various Central/State agencies. Time taken up by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for according their clearance depends upon the tieing up of necessary inputs/clearances, firmed cost estimates and tentative financial plan by the project authorities. The project reports for Dabhol Power Project and Bhadravati TPSs were cleared by CEA within 7-8 months respectively from the date of the receipt of Detailed Project Report. The other clearances also take time.

Gas based power plants in Tamil Nadu

319. SHRI S AUSTIN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up two gas-based small power projects in Tamil Nadu in near

future with the assistance of private sector;

(b) if so, the number of private parties approached and terms and location thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) to (c) The Pillaiperumal Nallur Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Power Project of 300 MW capacity is being developed by M/s Dyna Makowski Power Company, Madras — utilising the gas available in Cauvery Basin. The Power Purchase Agreement has already been initiated. CEA has cleared this project in principle and fuel linkage for the project has been obtained from Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India.

Government of Tamil Nadu has informed that a MOU has been signed for development of 2000 MW Gas based power project at Vembar with M/s CRSS Capital Corporation of Houston, USA and M/s Intech Global Resources Inc., USA and another MOU has been signed for development of 1000 MW Gas based power project at Gummidipoondi with M/s GVK Enterprises, Hyderabad.

TNEB has proposed to establish an additional 5 MW Gas Diesel Engine Unit at Narimanam under State Sector utilising the surplus gas.

महेश्वर पन बिजली परियोजना

320. **श्री अजीत जोगी** : क्या विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश में नर्मदा नदी पर स्थापित की जाने वाली महेश्वर पन बिजली परियोजना गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र को सौंपी गई है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी ब्यौरा क्या है और उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

विद्युत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती उर्मिला चिमनभाई पटेल) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि संसाधनों की कमी और राज्य में बिजली की मांग में वृद्धि को ध्यान में रखते हुए तथा विद्युत क्षेत्र में निजी क्षेत्र निवेश की प्रोत्साहित करने की भारत सरकार की नीति के अनुरूप, उन्होंने निजी क्षेत्र में महेश्वर एच.ई.पी. (400 मे.वा.) के क्रियान्वयन का कार्य मैसर्स एस. कुमार्स को सौंपा है ।

Investment by US Companies in the Power Sector

321· SHRI G· Y· KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the talks held with the visiting US Energy Secretary, particularly on the issue of counter-guarantees by India;

(b) what are the prospects for investment by the US companies in the power Sector in India and the additional power generation capacity likely to be generated;

(c) whether there had been US pressure on Government to expedite the processing of counter-guarantee terms for seven power projects mooted by US Companies; and

(d) if so, what alternatives are being worked out to replace the counter-guarantee stimulation particularly ensuring punctual payment by the State Electricity Boards through an Escrow A/c.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) During the recent visit of the